(b) to (d) Due to increase in traffic, there is sometimes congestion at some of the metro airports, especially, during the peak hours. Government is following an aggresive policy for modernization, upgradation and development of Airport infrastructure in the country. The metro airports of Delhi and Mumbai are being restructured through joint venture route to international standards. Government has also approved construction of greenfield airports of international standards at Hyderabad and Bangalore with private participation. Airports Authority of India have also decided to develop tentatively selected 25 non-metro airports by development of airside and cityside facilities. At several airports measures were taken to improve aesthetics and housekeeping of terminal building and cityside focussing on improving general cleanliness, improvements in toilets, florring, signages, lighting, interior decoration, trollies, airconditioning and horticulture. Central Industrial Security Force inducted in place of local State police at airports for security check, have also been given training in courteous handling of passengers.

Independent Civil Aviation Authority

2175. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to establish an independent Civil Aviation Authority to oversee the civil aviation sector; and

(b) if so, the structure of the proposed Authority and the date by which it will become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and(b) There is presently no proposal to establish an independent Civil Aviation Authority to oversee the CivilAviation Sector. However, Government is considering to set up an Airport Economic Regulatory Authority, which is, *inter-alia,* expected to deal with tariff and service standard at airports. The setting up of the Regulatory Authority will require an enabling legislation. However the Directorate General of Civil Aviation will continue to look after other regulatory functions.

Entry of private sector players in ATF supply at airports

2176. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: